



From the Sponsor

## CROSSTALK Co-Sponsors Invite Additional Government Organizations On Board



As Ada has continued to grow and evolve to benefit the software community, so has CROSSTALK. As part of our charter as the U. S. Air Force's Software Technology Support Center (STSC), we published our first issue of CROSSTALK 19 years ago. The Air Force centrally funded the STSC, reflecting its commitment to software process improvement. In addition to creating CROSSTALK, the STSC started what is now the Systems and Software Technology Conference (now in its 19th year), and developed a corps of expert software consultants and lead Capability Maturity Model®/Capability Maturity Model Integration appraisers. As a result, the Air Force created an organization that could be used as a resource for improving software development and acquisition throughout the Department of Defense.

The STSC has been very successful for 19 years, but the funding has changed. Unfortunately, faced with extreme fiscal limitations, the Air Force discontinued centrally funding the STSC in 2003. Since that time, the STSC has continued to operate as a primarily fee-for-service operation. To sustain CROSSTALK with no advertising revenue and no subscription fee, the publication has been maintained through the combined sponsorship of the Air Force's 76th, 309th, and 402nd Software Maintenance Groups as well as the Naval Air Systems Command and the Department of Homeland Security – all government organizations.

As the current CROSSTALK co-sponsors, we invite additional co-sponsors from other government organizations to also become co-sponsors. CROSSTALK promotes practices that are customary of world-class organizations, and it makes sense for the best government organizations to align themselves with CROSSTALK. If you consider your organization to be in this category, I hope you will consider joining us.

To secure the long-term viability of CROSSTALK, we also are investigating commercial support of CROSSTALK via commercial advertisements. Our goal is to maintain the same high quality, in-depth technical content and the general look and feel of the existing publication with the addition of an insert listing our commercial supporters. We are interested in your feelings about this. We would also like feedback from our readers in the private sector who may be interested in participating with us as potential CROSSTALK supporters. Please provide us your thoughts, inquiries, and support interest and e-mail them to <crosstalk.assocpub@hill.af.mil>.

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